HUNSLET

Rural District Council

REPORT

OF

JOSEPH BUCK, ESQ.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

—1895.—

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Annual Report, 1895.

HUNSLET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hunslet Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1895, and again draw your attention to the appended Tables A and B of the Local Government Board, and Table C of the County Council, the latter of which gives in a tabulated form the main facts of the Sanitary Work for the year.

BIRTHS.—There have been registered in the district, during the year, 212 births—122 males and 90 females, or 12 more than in the preceding year; the sub-registration district of Whitkirk (including Templenewsam (part of), Oulton-cum-Woodlesford, and Thorp Stapleton) contributing 171, and Middleton 41. Estimating the population at 6570, this gives a birth-rate of 32·26 per thousand: that of 1894 being 30·94 and the mean for the decade 1880-89 being 33·8. Of these births 9 were illegitimate—6 males and 3 females.

DEATHS.—During the corresponding period, there were registered 120 deaths—54 males and 66 females. Of these Templenewsam and Thorp Stapleton contributed 27, Oulton-cum-Woodlesford 68, and Middleton 25. This gives a death-rate of 18·26, that of 1894 being 15·16, and the mean of the decade 1880-1889 being 18. The increased death rate is due to the high rate of mortality in children under 5 years of age—56 out of a total of 120.

The following is a SUMMARY OF AGES at which death occurred :—

Deaths under 1 year	33	56 under 5 years
„ over 1 „ and under 5 years	23	
„ „ 5 years „ „ 15 „	6	64 above 5 yrs.
„ „ 15 „ „ „ 25 „	6	
„ „ 25 „ „ „ 65 „	25	
„ „ 65 „ and upwards ...	27	

There are included in the above returns 3 deaths in persons not belonging to this district—one, an unknown female, about 30 years of age, found drowned in the Aire, at Oulton : another, an Army reserve man, run over while trespassing at night on the N. E. Railway, Halton ; the third, a coal-miner, resident in Leeds, accidentally killed at Waterloo Main Colliery.

Two persons, both aged 80, belonging to the district, died in the Hunslet Workhouse.

CAUSES OF DEATH.—The following are taken from Table A :—

Scarlatina	3
Diphtheria	1
Membranous Croup	3
Puerperal Fever	1
Measles	6
Diarrhœa	10
Rheumatic Fever	1
Phthisis	7
Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	19
Heart Disease	3
Influenza	2
Injuries (Inquests)	4
All other Causes	60
Total...	120

INFANT MORTALITY.—33 deaths in children under 1 year have been registered, being at the rate of 27·5 per cent of the total number of deaths, 15·5 per cent of the children born alive, and 5 per 1000 of the population.

The Causes of Death were :—Marasmus, Congenital Debility and Premature Birth, 10 (1 inquest) ; Measles, 2 ; Bronchitis and Pneumonia, 5 ; Diarrhœa and Gastro-intestinal Catarrh, 8 ; Congenital Syphilis, 1 ; Anillary Abscess, 1 ; Hydrocephalus, 2 ; Tabes Mesenterica, 1 ; Teething and Convulsions, 2 ; Scarlet Fever, 1.

The infant rate of mortality is increased from 14 per cent of the children born alive in 1894, to 15·5 per cent in 1895, the mean of the decade 1880-1889 being 13·1, and it will be seen from the causes of death, that the greater proportion of these causes is generally due to want of care, or ignorance in the matter of feeding.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—There were 14 deaths registered from zymotic causes :—Scarlatina, 3 ; Diphtheria, 1 ; Membranous Croup, 3 ; Puerperal Fever, 1 ; Measles, 6.

Of these, Templenewsam contributed 1 case of Diphtheria and 1 of Puerperal Fever ; Oulton-cum-Woodlesford, 3 Membranous Croup, and 5 Measles ; Middleton, 3 Scarlatina, and 1 Measles.

The zymotic death rate is thus 2·1 per 1000, that of 1894 being 1·7, and the mean for the decade, 1880-1889, 2·3. The increase is due to the epidemics of Measles and Scarlatina which have prevailed in the district. It is gratifying to find that no deaths from zymotic causes have occurred in persons over ten years of age, with the exception of the case of Puerperal Fever, which was not contracted in this district, death being due to causes which supervened some time after.

The number of INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED during the year was 43. There were also 4 cases unnotified, which makes a total of 47 cases brought to my knowledge. Of these Templenewsam contributed Scarlatina 3, Diphtheria 1, Typhoid 2, Erysipelas 2 ; Oulton-cum-Woodlesford, Scarlatina 4, Membranous Croup 3, Typhoid 1, Erysipelas 6 ; Middleton, Scarlatina 23, Diphtheria 1, Typhoid 1.

SCARLATINA.—Of the 30 cases of Scarlatina, 23 occurred in Middleton. A special report was presented on this outbreak, which spread from the City boundary, partly from want of home precautions, and from the absence of any hospital accommodation. Of the 3 cases in Templenewsam, 2 occurred in one house in February, and the third in April, the latter living close to the former. The infection could not be traced, though the sink pipes in both houses were defective. Of the 4 cases in Oulton-cum-Woodlesford, 3 occurred in Oulton and 1 in New Woodlesford, and were of a sporadic nature, though in 2 of the cases there were grounds for believing that the disease was imported.

TYPHOID.—Of the 4 cases notified, 2 occurred in Templenewsam, and 1 each in Oulton-cum-Woodlesford and Middleton. One of the cases in Templenewsam was in a child aged 5, living in Dial Row, Halton, where the ashes pit is only 10 feet from the house, and was very offensive when emptied some time in the afternoon; the other case was in a young man (æt. 23,) living at Newsam Square, whose father is a Leeds night-soil man, and will no doubt carry a distinct effluvia with him. The case in Woodlesford was a brewers' cartman, and may have contracted the disease outside the district, as this is the only case during the year. The case in Middleton was in a child 1½ years old, in which the infection could not be traced.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—There were only 2 cases of Diphtheria during the year—one each in Templenewsam and Middleton. The case in Templenewsam, which proved fatal, occurred in a house in Brigg's yard, which is surrounded by manure heaps and pigstyes. The case in Middleton occurred at the New Hall Estate, where the water supply, which at that time was condemned, has been improved. The 3 cases of Croup (which were in children under 5), occurred in Woodlesford, and all died. Three fatal cases occurred in this neighbourhood in 1894, and I can only repeat my opinion that much overcrowding exists in this part of the district.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Two epidemics of Measles occurred during the year—one in Woodlesford in January, and the other in Middleton in May and June. The schools at Woodlesford were closed for a month after the Christmas holidays, and at Middleton for about the same period after Whitsuntide. There were 6 deaths—5 in Woodlesford and 1 in Middleton, all cases being complicated with pulmonary mischief. Both outbreaks were reported upon at the time. It is a matter of regret that so many parents regard this disease as trivial, and neglect to take proper sanitary precautions and have medical advice, until it is too late to prevent its spread, or to ward off complications. There have been no deaths registered from Whooping Cough.

DIARRHŒA was very prevalent during the Summer and Autumn, 10 deaths being registered from this cause, 8 of which were in children under 1 year of age.

INFLUENZA.—Two deaths were registered from this cause, one complicated with convulsions, in a child (æt 17 months) in Woodlesford, the other, complicated with pneumonia, in a female (æt 39) in Templenewsam.

INQUESTS.—Seven inquests were held : 4 of the deaths being due to injuries and drowning, and 3 to natural causes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—The disused school house at Waterloo, which the late Authority in 1892 resolved to convert into a Small Pox Hospital, has during the year, been repaired, and supplied with the necessary furniture and appliances, and we are now in a position to grapple with an outbreak, two beds being available. The difficulty of approach still remains, and I would urge the Council to settle this matter as early as possible. With regard to the subject of an Infectious Diseases Hospital, I am of opinion that this question should be dealt with by the County Council, who could form a Hospital district for a combination of two or more Councils.

WATER SUPPLY.—The supply of wholesome water from the mains continues to progress. Sixty-six more houses have been supplied during the year, the total number of houses now having the public supply being 1225. In September, I reported on the impurity of the water supply to the New Hall Estate, Middleton, and the houses were connected to the mains very shortly after. The question of water supply at Newsam Green still requires consideration. In September 1894, in a report on that subject, I recommended that the mains should be carried to that hamlet. The mains have been laid to Belle-isle, Middleton, but no attempt has been made to connect the houses yet. In May, I reported that, though the water supply to this district gave no evidence of impurity at that time, yet there were many circumstances which rendered a public supply desirable.

SEWERAGE AND SANITARY WORK.—The Station Master's office at Woodlesford, which was reported upon as being badly ventilated and deficient in cubical capacity, has been pulled down, and two new offices of ample space, light and ventilation have been substituted.

The drainage of Hermon Terrace, Halton, still remains unsatisfactory. It was resolved in May, that the houses should be drained into a cesspool on the opposite side of the road, though I am still of opinion, that it would be more satisfactory if carried to the Tadcaster Sewage Works.

With regard to the Lemonroyd Sewage Works, an agreement has been made with the Rothwell District Council, whereby that Authority takes over the works, and undertakes to treat our sewage on terms mutually agreed.

The total number of nuisances reported during 1895, has been 69, of which 65 have been abated. Four houses have been condemned as unfit for habitation. There have been no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances. I regret that the Council have resolved not to enforce trapped sink pipes ; surely this is a retrograde movement, and one well worthy of re-consideration.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Chairman and members for their courtesy, and also for the support they have given me in matters which have for their object the health and well-being of the community.

JOSEPH BUCK,

Medical Officer of Health.

Rothwell, near Leeds,

January, 1896.

APPENDIX A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the Hunslet Rural District, Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

MEMORANDUM.—The deaths which have been classified in this Table, and summed up in the horizontal line of 'Totals,' are the whole of those registered as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate to the best of their ability what the extent of such corrections should be.

Names of Localities. (Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.)	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.							Mortality from Subjoined Causes, Distinguishing Deaths of Children Under 5 Years of Age.													
	At All Ages.	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards		Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Puerperal Fever	Measles.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	Totals.
Templenewsam (part of) & Thorp Stapleton	27	8	5	1	2	8	4	Under 5...	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	8	13
								5 upwards	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	4	4	15
Oulton-with-Woodlesford.	68	20	17	2	3	9	16	Under 5...	—	—	3	—	4	5	—	—	10	—	1	—	14	37
								5 upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	23	30
Middleton.	25	5	1	3	1	8	7	Under 5...	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
								5 upwards	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—	—	9	19
Totals.	120	33	23	6	6	25	27	Under 5...	1	1	3	—	5	9	—	—	12	—	1	—	24	56
								5 upwards	2	—	—	1	1	1	1	7	7	3	1	4	36	64

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

	Mortality from all Causes at Subjoined Ages.				Mortality from Subjoined Cases.			
	Under 1 Year.	5 and under 15	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases	Total.
Deaths occurring outside the District among Persons belonging thereto				2	1		1	2
Deaths occurring within the District among Persons not belonging thereto			3			3		3

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates:

Area in Acres, 6,583.

Population (1891), 6,120.

APPENDIX B.

Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1895, in the Hunslet Rural District; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	Population at all Ages. Census, 1891. Males	Females	Totals.	Estimated to middle of 1895.	Registered Births	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas.	Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital. Smallpox.
TEMPLENEWSAM and THORP STAPLETON	1043	1065	2108	6570	171	Under 5..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
						5 upwards		2			2		2	
OULTON-with-WOODLESFORD	1409	1367	2776			Under 5..	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
						5 upwards		2			1		6	
MIDDLETON	611	625	1236		41	Under 5...	—	12	1	—	1	—	—	—
						5 upwards		11						
TOTALS	3063	3057	6120	6570	212	Under 5..	—	15	2	3	1	—	—	—
						5 upwards		15			3		8	

Is "Notification of Infectious Disease" compulsory in the District? *Yes.* Since when? *1st. January, 1890.* Name of Isolation Hospital used by the Sick of the District. *School House at Waterloo, just outside Hunslet boundary, situated in Rothwell, for Small Pox cases only.*

APPENDIX C.

Annual Return to West Riding County Council.

Hunslet Rural Sanitary District.

Medical Officer of Health, JOSEPH BUCK.
Present Salary, £60. Term of appointment, Three Years

Special Reports presented during 1895,
Measles at Woodlesford ... ... February 5th.
Measles at Middleton ... ... July 3rd.
Scarlatina at Middleton ... .. December 18th.

Rateable Value (1895) for Poor Rate £39295.

Sanitary Inspector, WILLIAM WHITEHEAD, Salary £95

Water Supply—
Any Extension or Change during 1895? 66 more houses supplied and 150 feet extension of service.
Total number of houses having public supply? 1225.
Average daily consumption per head? 8 gallons—
not including water for mercantile purposes.
Action on lead? Slight action of Middleton water from Wakefield when standing in pipes overnight.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—
Extensions or Improvements during 1895? 140 feet New Sewer.

Scavenging—

Are the Privy Middens, &c., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Tenants ?—Contractors.

Frequency ?—5 times a year average.

Annual Cost ?—£310.

Is the present arrangement satisfactory ?—Yes.

Bye-Laws, Regulations, and Adoptive Acts. *Date of Adoption*

Infectious diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, 6th Nov. 1889

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890 } Not Adopted
Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 }

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders ... ... 21st Sep. 1887.

Building Bye-Laws ... ... 13th Dec. 1882.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, Etc.	No.		General Condition.	Legal Proceedings (if any)
	Registered	Inspected		
Common lodging houses	none	none		
Canal Boats	none	25	Satisfactory	
Slaughter Houses ...	7	weekly	Fairly Good	
Bakehouses	none			
Dairies	11		Fairly Satisfactory	
Cowsheds	15			
Milkshops	1			
Offensive Trades ...	none			

Births—

(*a*) No. of each sex.—122 males and 90 females—212.

(*b*) No. illegitimate included in the above,—6 males and 3 females—9.

Deaths—

(*a*) No. of each sex—54 males and 66 females—120,

(*b*) No. uncertified—included in the above—None.

Death Returns—

What correction (if any) is made for non-residents dying within the District ?—See Table A.

Are any returns obtained of deaths of residents occurring in Public Institutions, (Workhouses. Hospitals, &c.) outside the District ?—Yes. See Table A.

Hospital for Infectious Diseases—

No. of Beds—2. Charges to Patients—None.

Additions or Alterations during 1895 ? - School House at Waterloo, repaired and put in order.

What Diseases are admitted ?—Small-pox only.

How many different Diseases at one time ?

Disinfection. Apparatus (Steam ? Hot Air ?).....

Work done at Leeds when necessary.

Sanitary Work –

No. of Houses built during 1895—3.

House to House Inspection during 1895—

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1894—14. At close of 1895—8.

Reported during 1895—69.

Abated during 1895—65.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None.

House Drainage—

Number of sinks dis-connected during 1895—17. Trapped—

Closets. Approximate number of each kind in district—

Water Closets 75 ; Trough Closets, 3 ; Slop Closet (waste Water Closet), 13 ; Pail, Pan or Tub Closet, 1 ; Covered Privy Middens— Uncovered—

No. Constructed during 1895 ?—3. Kinds :—Covered-Ashespits Rebuilt, 8.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters—

Houses Unfit for Habitation ? - 4 Not to be Occupied again.

Overcrowding ?—No Proceedings.

Seizure of Unsound Food.....Prosecutions.....
Samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.....Prosecutions..... } None

River Pollution ?

Smoke Abatement ?— 1 Notice Given.

Workshops ?—